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Canada. National Committee for the
Celebration of the Diamond Jubilee
Confederation
Government
Publications

Diamond Jubilee of Confederation

General public knowledge
[G-3]

General Suggestions for
the guidance of committees
in charge of local celebrations

Published by the Executive Committee of the National
Committee for the Celebration of the Diamond Jubilee
of Confederation, 106 Wellington Street, Ottawa.



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FOREWORD

In offering these hints the Executive Committee does so in the hope that they may be of assistance to those who have charge of celebrations in different communities in Canada.

The National Committee has but one object in view, namely, to have a Dominion-wide Celebration in order that our people, young and old, may be impressed with the accomplishments of our fathers and mothers in the past, and be imbued with a patriotic optimism for the future.

Each locality will, undoubtedly, celebrate in its own way, but if these suggestions are of any assistance the Executive will be gratified.

DIAMOND JUBILEE OF CONFEDERATION

General Suggestions for the Guidance of Committees in Charge of Local Celebrations

Public Meeting

1. The Mayor or Reeve should at once call a public meeting to form a Diamond Jubilee Committee. The municipal council, the educational authorities, representatives of churches, societies, and all other organizations should be included on this Committee. Try to get every class of the community interested.

Diamond Jubilee Committee

2. The function of the Diamond Jubilee Committee will be to arrange programs for

Dominion Day, Friday, July 1st.

Saturday, July 2nd, which will be a public holiday this year.

Sunday, July 3rd,

and to appoint sub-committees to deal with such matters as finances, decorations, participation of school children, sports, parades, pageants, music, etc.

Decorations

3. Local committees should see that public buildings and streets are properly decorated with flags, bunting, etc.

The citizens generally should also be asked to decorate their own homes.

Form of Celebration for July 1st.

4. Every celebration on July first should be a public function under the leadership of the Mayor or Reeve of the community. There should be a clear, strong, dominant note of patriotism in every celebration. This is Canada's Sixtieth Anniversary as a Dominion. Let the hearts and minds of all our people be directed to Canada—what she has done in the past, what we hope to make her in the future.

Time of Celebration

5. The people should assemble at some convenient time of the day for the community celebration. The time will not necessarily be the same in each place. This will be decided by the local committee.

Processions and Parades

6. A good way to get people together is to have a procession. Engage the local bands and have the children join in a parade in which all societies and organizations should have a part. Although, in most localities, July 1st falls after the close of the schools, arrangements should be made well in advance to have teachers and school children attend in a body. This will be the only opportunity in this generation to celebrate in a great national way the founding of Confederation.

School Children

7. Teachers and school children should assemble at their own schools, where souvenir medals issued by the National Executive Committee may be presented before the parade and celebration.

Floats and Tableaux

8. In the parades, floats portraying the history of our country should be included. If floats cannot be made, the school children or young people might arrange historical tableaux with suitable dances and music. A booklet is in course of preparation by the National Committee, giving details as to how floats and tableaux of this kind can be easily prepared. This will be forwarded to local committees on application.

Militia and Veterans

9. In the celebrations in Ottawa and the Provincial Capitals, and in the larger cities and towns participation of units of the Militia will be a distinctive feature of all processions. Officers and men of local regiments will doubtless be pleased to assist, if their co-operation is requested by local committees. Veterans should also be requested to join in parades.

Newcomers

10. Newcomers in all districts should be especially invited to take their part in community celebrations. All who love Canada and who aspire to be good Canadians should be made welcome.

Old Settlers

11. Where there are old settlers, more particularly those in the West who took up land in the picturesque manner of the ox-train and the prairie-schooner, they should be especially asked to join in the celebrations.

Indians

12. If there are any Indians in the vicinity they should be asked to participate in the procession and in the subsequent ceremonies. Do not overlook the earliest inhabitants.

Saluting the Flag

13. Wherever public ceremonies are held, the flag should be flown in a conspicuous place. On arrival, processions should march past the flag and salute.

Presiding Officer

14. Public ceremonies should be called to order by the Mayor, Reeve, or other public functionary. Wherever possible, choirs of school children or other community choirs should be stationed near the Presiding Officer. Such choirs, apart from selections they will contribute to programs, should lead in community singing.

Suggested Program

15. A suggested program, which may be varied to suit local conditions, is submitted as follows:—

- (A) "O Canada! Our Home and Native Land!
True patriot-love in all thy sons command,
With glowing hearts we see thee rise,
The True North, strong and free,
And stand on guard, O Canada,
We stand on guard for thee.

O Canada! *glorious and free*,
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee!
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee!
- (B) Reading by Presiding Officer of certain addresses which will be furnished by the National Committee and will be common to all celebrations throughout the country.
- (C) Patriotic song.
- (D) Short patriotic addresses by public men or clergy, etc.
- (E) Patriotic song.
- (F) Recitation or addresses by school children. Children who have been winners in any special historical competitions in connection with the Diamond Jubilee should be included.
- (G) Patriotic song.
- (H) "God save our gracious King,
Long live our noble King,
God save the King.
Send him victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God save the King!"

Decoration of Monuments and Historic Sites

16. After the program has been completed any monuments of the Fathers of Confederation, of public men since Confederation, or of men and women of National eminence, should be decorated, preferably with wreaths of maple leaves.

If any of the Fathers of Confederation are buried in the local cemetery, their graves should be similarly decorated. Also any historic sites in the vicinity should be especially marked on this occasion.

Picnics, Etc.

17. Associated with the public ceremonies there should be a picnic or other demonstration, with sports for the children.

An attempt should be made to get all the people of the community together in a great out-of-doors gathering.

Evening Programs and Illumination

18. In the evening there should be a concert, with fireworks and a community bonfire or other illumination. Where bonfires are lighted, the local Committee should take every precaution to see that no damage to property results. Electrical illumination and display is recommended wherever possible. The National Committee expects to furnish particulars later for a uniform type of electrical illumination for the whole country.

Broadcast of Carillon From Ottawa

19. During the evening of July 1st, it is hoped to broadcast from Ottawa throughout most of the country a patriotic concert played on the carillon of bells in the tower of the Federal Parliament Building. Details about this will appear later in the press.

SATURDAY, JULY 2nd

Sports Program on Saturday

The celebration should be continued on this day and should preferably take the form of a program of sports, in which Canadian sports such as lacrosse, canoe races, etc., should find a special place. In view of the wide differences in various localities, it would be difficult for the National Committee to lay down any definite program.

SUNDAY, JULY 3rd

Thanksgiving Services on Sunday

On this day churches in all communities should be invited to hold special services and, wherever possible, joint community services should be held in the open air.

The National Committee hopes to provide orders of service with suitable hymns, for the guidance of churches and for Sunday school exercises.

Finances

The National Committee will not be able to extend financial aid to local community celebrations, but it suggests the following plan which is being followed in communities already organized:—

1. Municipal grants.
2. Voluntary subscriptions.
3. Sale of souvenir programs.
4. Small admission fee for certain sports and other special events.

GENERAL ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE

In general, the activities of the National Committee will be directed towards furnishing information for the guidance of local committees, and towards carrying out work of an educational character, through the Provincial Governments.

The National Committee will work in close co-operation with Provincial committees. Provincial committees will have the direction of municipal and school activities.

Medals for school children participating in the celebrations are being prepared, under the direction of the National Committee, and will be distributed through the various Provincial Governments.

The National Committee is also offering awards for competitions in Canadian history in the schools of each Province, and also in the secondary schools and universities. The school competitions will be conducted by the Provincial authorities, and the awards will be distributed through the agency of the Provincial Governments.

A plan is under consideration by the National Committee for the furnishing to schoolrooms throughout Canada of permanent mottoes or plaques of a patriotic character. An announcement about this will be made later in the press, and any distribution of this kind will take place through the Provincial Governments.

The publication of a booklet entitled "Sixty Years of Progress" has been arranged for, and this booklet will shortly be available for the guidance of speakers, essay writers, etc. Other historical works are in course of preparation.

In co-operation with the Post Office Department, the National Committee has arranged for a commemorative issue of postage stamps.

At a little later date, the National Committee will give its attention to certain proposals for scholarships, awards for literature, prizes, etc., which have been placed before it by representative people in different parts of the country.

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